

# HEIRETTA CROSMAN IN BELASCO'S NEW PLAY

"Sweet Kitty Bellairs" Has  
Its First Production on the  
Stage of the Lafayette  
Square Opera House.

LARGE AUDIENCE HELD  
NEARLY SIX HOURS

Time-Worn Plot Embellish-  
ed by Fine Stage Setting.  
A Charming Prologue One  
of Pleasant Features.

A new play, at once significant of a valuable stage alliance and a material equipment remarkable even in this day of extraordinary investigations, was produced at the Lafayette Square Theatre last night by David Belasco. The drama bore the title of "Sweet Kitty Bellairs" and had for its star Henrietta Crosman, an actress of much artistic sensibility, fine technical skill, and great personal force. It would be pleasant to record that the audience had proven a notable contribution to theatrical art; but this was not the case.

Any examination of Mr. Belasco's other ventures—"Zaza," "Du Barry," and "The Darling of the Gods"—would have prepared the audience to expect a series of stage pictures as brilliant and rich as the period would permit; a good company of pronounced evenness; a plot which dealt mainly with attacks on the reputation of women, or with the temptations to women produced by circumstances, personal weakness, or masculine fecklessness; and a series of brutal details. A knowledge of Miss Crosman's career would have led, similarly, to the anticipation of a consistent enactment—whatever the character of the events in which she took part—a pulsating, living personality, and an abundant personal charm. It is a fair epitome of "Sweet Kitty Bellairs" to say that these expectations were entirely realized.

Certain general qualities of the entertainment had been disclosed in advance. It was thus known the period was that of the French Republic, and that the action occurred chiefly at Bath, then the center of English frivolity, the scene of innumerable flirtations and the social kingdom in which half a dozen beaux and belles ruled in turn. Kitty Bellairs arrived in Bath in 1793, shortly after the reign of Beau Nash, and the play presents, therefore, a picture like those of "Gainsborough," "The French Girl," and "The French Boy," but with a different background, and a different character. The play is a comedy, and is characterized by a background of English countryside of pastoral beauty and peaceful security.

A Gem in a Beano.

Into this picture steps an Irishwoman, "Sweet Kitty Bellairs," Miss Crosman's art and Mr. Belasco's skill make the character delightful. She is given the character of a French girl, and her brogue is as delicate as the shamrocks she carries always in her belt. Her heart is too large for her body, as she says of one of the other characters. And she has all the gifts of speech, of wit, of compliment, and of brilliancy of mind with which playwright and novelists have always endowed the Irish.

Her career in this Bath comedy comprises a falling in love with the most beautiful of the French boys, a most beautiful lieutenant in the service, a midnight visit to his room to prevent him from fighting a duel, her discovery there behind his bed curtains, the humiliation of a general snuff at an officer's ball, and a final tattle to the good grace and her sweetheart's favor. The usual subordinate characters are provided, as a matter of course, two boisterous colonels; a baronet bragging pursuing a liaison with mighty vigor; a deposed belle of Bath, jealous, designing, and unprincipled; a tattle-tale companion, whose weakness prevents her from saving Kitty, and the inevitable officers, beaux, ladies and servants.

Painted With Strong Colors.

The truth of the matter is that the plot was worn out a hundred years ago, and in this instance is spread very thin. Sheridan, borrowed the best element in it from sources which reached back two centuries or more, and no one who has followed in his footsteps—either with "Lady Windemere's Fan," "The Mummy and the Humming Bird," "The Sword of the King," or any others of this innumerable company—has done half so well. But this device of hiding behind a curtain and subsequent discovery is too direct a road to dramatic interest ever to wear out. As long as the great number of our plays are written to make money, it will be triumphant. There is some consolation, however, in thinking that these plays do not last unless built with the master's hand, and that when they are so built their offensiveness is minimized.

Mr. Belasco's error seems to lie in a purpose to paint his dramatic pictures with strong colors. This is frequent in all the arts, and it is noteworthy that every artist who has been really great has worked boldly, strongly and fearlessly. But it has been always the man who justified the methods and not the methods which justified the man. Mr. Belasco—be it said with all respect and regret—has so far manifested nothing more than a technical skill to produce certain mechanical results, the consequence is that "Sweet Kitty Bellairs" abounds in brutish, sickening immorality. Instead of atmosphere in his bedroom scenes this playwright has

produced something very close to stench.

Nevertheless, the work has occasional charm. At the outset the curtain rises to disclose a young girl of Bath, leaning forward from a shepherd's crook to speak one of the most charming prologues of the current literary age. This is done by Antonette Walker with a beauty of elocution admirably calculated to prepossess all her hearers in favor of the play. Here and there in the dialogue is interesting and diverting. Always the stage pictures offer charm with the effects of true stage art or dabble by virtue of wondrous brilliancy. But these are only occasional sentences, so to speak, in a book of marked ill character as a whole. The acting is well done. Miss Crosman leads the company by virtue of superior capability as well as pre-eminent position in the plot. Behind her are grouped Katherine Florence, Edith Crane, John E. Kellard, R. Peyton Carter, Edwin Stevens, and Frank H. Weston. Indeed, the entire cast did justice to the comedy and kept continuously within the picture.

Last night the actors suffered from an unusual strain. Aside from the general nervousness of a first production, they were embarrassed by extremely long waits between the acts. These were a consequence of circumstances which Mr. Belasco could not control, such as the sudden and unexpected employment of the actors in other plays, and the arrival of those in the audience, and when the author expressed his regret for them he was given hearty and abundant thanks.

It is to be hoped, in conclusion, that "Sweet Kitty Bellairs" may not prove the financial success which Mr. Belasco's recent plays have made. It would be a portentous and discouraging revelation of present-day conditions, if it were to confirm, moreover, one of Mr. Belasco's manifest convictions—that only plays which deal with immorality can command the support of American playgoers. But, worst of all, it would prove that the partnership of eminent actress and superior manager into an alliance to make money at the cost of their art, their own self-respect, and their faith in their fellows.

A. D. A.

# WARM DEBATE IN CUBA EXPECTED IN SENATE

Members of Upper House to Fill in Next Week  
With Views on Reciprocity and Annexation.

Debate in the Senate for the remaining ten days of the extraordinary session is likely to bring to the front some further discussion based on phases of the Cuban reciprocity question. This was indicated yesterday when a number of Senators took occasion to express their views, at more or less length, in connection with the Newlands joint resolution to invite Cuba to join the Union.

Mr. Teller of Colorado has announced his intention of going into the matter more at length, and other Senators are expected to make comment to offset some of the stinging sarcasm and partisan charges made yesterday by Mr. Carmack of Tennessee.

The Senate will be in session at least twice in the coming week, to meet constitutional requirements, and may sit oftener if it seems desirable to put views on record relating to the long-pending reciprocity treaties negotiated by John A. Kisson, and other matters brought out by the Tennessee Senator in his fiery speech. Mr. Spooner of Wisconsin intends to speak, and Mr. Doilever of Iowa, who was personally arraigned by Mr. Carmack on the tariff question, may take a hand in the debate.

Mr. Newlands Explains.

When Mr. Carmack had concluded his speech yesterday, Mr. Newlands took the floor to explain some criticisms on his Cuban resolution. He referred to the comment that Puerto Rico, without her consent, was to be annexed to Cuba. This, he declared, was incorrect, as the bill provided only for inquiring the wishes of both Cuba and Porto Rico and inviting them to join this country.

"I claim to be the friend of Cuba," he said, "and in presenting this matter as I did, I have only referred to history as it has been written in the records of this Congress. The effect of the resolution is to sustain the credit of Cuba and not to injure it."

Mr. Teller followed Mr. Newlands, and said he might speak at length on this subject in the future, but for the present wished only to object to a declaration of the Nevada Senator that Cuba is without the slightest doubt an international sovereignty, and that to contend differently is to advance "an absolute legal absurdity."

Mr. Newlands replied that the Platt resolution limited Cuba to obey this country's will, and that made her dependent economically and politically.

Mr. Teller said he would argue the point more fully at some later day.

Hale Denies Discussion.

Mr. Hale predicted not ten Senators, perhaps not five, favor the Newlands idea, and that the harm is done Cuba by this agitation of the subject of annexing the island.

"It has nothing of results in prospect, nobody is in favor of it, but it makes mischief," concluded the Maine Senator.

The debate was interrupted to consider and adopt the resolution to enable each of the three new committees of the Senate to employ a clerk at \$1,800 a year.

No Cause for Alarm.

Mr. Newlands took issue with Mr. Hale on the latter's statement about "taking" the friends, with the intimation that force was intended. But he held the policy of 190 years past was to acquire Cuba if it could be done peacefully.

Mr. Carmack again took the floor in opposition to Mr. Hale's statement that agitation of the Newlands resolution would only alarm the Cubans regarding their future independence. "If they are alarmed," he said, "it is because of the action of the United States in using the navy of this country to assist a lot of French adventurers in disemboweling an American republic. It is such conduct as this on the part of our own Government that makes the Cubans and others suspicious of us."

The Senate then went into executive session.

# SAMUEL C. RAMAGE DIES FROM CANCER

Was Employee of Postoffice Department  
and Acted as Special Attorney  
for the Carriers.

Samuel C. Ramage, an employee of the Postoffice Department, died early this morning at his home, 409 B Street northwest. His death was due to cancer of the stomach.

Mr. Ramage was widely known as an attorney for mail carriers. He had been employed in the Government service since about 1880, when he came here from Knoxville, Tenn. Prior to that time he had been the publisher of the "Knoxville Tribune." At one time he was general manager of the Mount Vernon and Marshall Hall Steamboat Company.

Mr. Ramage is survived by a widow, a son, and a daughter. The funeral will be held at 2 o'clock Friday afternoon. Interment will be at Rock Creek Cemetery.

Charles Platt, a widely known guide in Washington, died yesterday at the Providence Hospital. His death was due to cancer of the brain. He sustained the injury by a fall recently. His body will be buried by members of the Grand Army of the Republic. Interment will be at Arlington.

George T. Cumberland, a boathouse keeper on the Potomac River, died yesterday at his home, 824 Twentieth Street northwest. His death was due to Bright's disease. He was sixty-seven years old.

Mr. Cumberland had resided in the District all his life. He was employed in the Washington navy yard at the time of the civil war. Later he erected a boathouse, and had maintained the establishment since then.

The funeral will be held from St. Stephen's Church at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning. Requiem mass will be celebrated by Father O'Connell. Interment will be at Mt. Olivet.

Mrs. E. L. Russell.

Mrs. Emma L. Russell, wife of the general counsel of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, died at the Columbia University Hospital last night. Her death was due to meningitis, which developed from an attack of grip.

Mrs. Russell came to Washington six weeks ago in company with her husband, and had been stopping at the New Willard. She was removed to the hospital, and there an operation was performed to remove an abscess which had formed on the mastoid bone of the head. Meningitis followed the operation.

The body will be sent to the family home in Mobile, Ala., in a private car, in which Mr. and Mrs. Russell had been traveling.

FOUR MONTHS FOR STEALING.

Mary L. Warren, indicted for grand larceny, yesterday pleaded guilty and was sentenced by Justice Peckham to imprisonment in the District Jail for four months.

May Abandon Ferry.

It was said today upon good authority that the Baltimore and Ohio intends to send its freight boat hereafter over the Long Bridge, instead of by the Shepley street ferry. The ferry has been a satisfactory proposition, especially in winter, when ice has interfered with traffic.

CONSUMPTION CAN BE CURED IN THE FIRST STAGES

A Beautiful Girl Saved From Dread Consumption—  
Other Wonderful Cures.

MISS MABEL A. BRADFORD

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# NEWS OF RAILROADS AND OF RAILROAD MEN

C. & O. Headquarters.

Dispatches assert there is no truth in the reports that the Chesapeake and Ohio intends to remove its offices from Richmond. It is hinted the size of the tax bills had something to do with these reports starting to Richmond people. The taxes under the new laws amount this year to \$54,000 against \$18,000 last year. This sort of an increase is a sort of blow that nearly killed President Stevens' regard for the Virginia capital. It is now said, however, the tax is to be paid and the railroad will not move.

After Another Road.

From New York comes the report that J. Pierpont Morgan is after another railroad, but in what part of the country the report does not say. It seems that Morgan & Co. are to absorb \$40,000,000 worth of the new \$50,000,000 issue of Lake Shore bonds, with which they are to buy the railroad. Unless Mr. Morgan and his associates are to this sum, the railroad they are after must be a small affair.

Rushing South.

The freeze-up has increased passenger traffic to the South 50 per cent, and the agencies are having about all they can do to supply accommodations. Col. A. Reed, district passenger agent of the Atlantic Coast Line, announces that business is greater today than it was in January last year. District Passenger Agent Cole, of the Seaboard Air Line, reports a similar condition. Brooks Morgan and Col. L. S. Brown, Southern, say their trains are crowded.

NEWS FROM ROCKVILLE.

(Special to The Washington Times.)

ROCKVILLE, Md., Nov. 26.—A number of liquor cases were disposed of in court here yesterday. In almost all of them the traversers were found guilty.

In the case against Isaac Norman, selling intoxicating liquor in four cases, was found guilty in all, upon the evidence of the Anti-Saloon League detectives. His attorney has filed a motion for a new trial.

J. H. Bailey, a colored preacher, residing near Washington Grove, was acquitted of this charge.

In the case against Mosby Butt, charged with a murderous assault, the jury found the traverser not guilty.

Charles Brown was found not guilty of common assault.

In the case of the State vs. Wilbur Howard, for larceny, the traverser pleaded guilty, and the court suspended sentence, the good behavior of the prisoner being promised.

CONVICTS DRIFT FOR THIRTEEN DAYS

VICTORIA, B. C., Nov. 26.—The steamer Mona, which arrived yesterday from Australia, reported the picking up of thirteen convicts from the penal settlement at New Caledonia, who had been drifting in an open boat for thirteen days.

Freight Improvements.

With its usual dispatch, the Baltimore and Ohio has made great progress on the freight station at Beltsville in the last week. Of the hundreds of buildings which had to be removed, less than a dozen are now standing. The vast stretch of ground is now laid clear before the eye, showing the great extent of the yards and station buildings. In their way have been the old station, the old freight house, and the old Union Station. Steam shovels, scoops, and big gangs of men are at work at various points excavating and miniature railroads are carrying the dirt to hollows and valleys out of the way. The scene is one of wide activity. It was said today that the terminal ought to be ready for freight in about eighteen months.

Four Months for Stealing.

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# Coming to the Theaters

Columbia—"The Runaways."

"The Runaways" will open an engagement at the Columbia Theatre next Monday night, with Fay Templeton as the star of the production. During the progress of "The Runaway" Miss Templeton will give several imitations which have made her fame international in its scope. The cast will be practically the same as seen here last spring and includes Arthur H. Hays Sulzberger, a lawn fete, and a Christmas toy shop to complete the realism of the play. The play, as a whole, is said to be full of action, ginger, and comedy.

Empire—"The Scout's Revenge."

The attraction at the Empire Theatre next week will be "The Scout's Revenge," which is said to be a melodrama with many thrilling features. The action of the play takes place in Texas, and the story is a pretty love tale.

Lafayette—Minnie Madern Fiske.

The great interest in the reappearance here of Mrs. Fiske after five years' absence was indicated yesterday when seats for her engagement at the Lafayette Theatre were placed on sale. The demand for tickets was steady all day, and by evening a large booking had been recorded. There seems to be a general desire to see Mrs. Fiske in both the plays she will present here, as many persons have bought seats for both "Mary of Magdala" and "Hedda Gabler." No better opportunity to study the diversity of Mrs. Fiske's art could be found than in her portrayals of the widely contrasting roles so powerfully painted by Heyse and by Ibsen. And in each role Mrs. Fiske is, by general critical judgment, forceful, intellectual and lays bare, as it were, the very soul of the woman. The success of the Ibsen play, as well as of "Mary of Magdala," has been remarkable, and it is fortunate that Mrs. Fiske is to give both plays here. Mary of Magdala will be played on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday evenings, and "Hedda Gabler" on Wednesday and Friday evening and Saturday matinee.

Academy—"Two Little Waifs."

Lincoln J. Carter's melodramatic entertainment, "Two Little Waifs," will be seen at the Academy, commencing next Monday. One of the principal features of the performance is the acting of the children, who have the title role. There are moving pictures, a rising moon, a lawn fete, and a Christmas toy shop to complete the realism of the play. The play, as a whole, is said to be full of action, ginger, and comedy.

Lyceum—Rose Sydel's London Belles.

The next attraction to be offered at the Lyceum Theatre is Rose Sydel's London Belles company of meritorious entertainers. The program calls for two burlesques and an olio. The olio embraces some of the best specialty stars, and headed by the O'Brien Troupe.

Objects to Rain Water.

Mrs. Amelia Bauer, owner of premises at 44 H Street northwest, has instituted proceedings in the equity branch of the District Court to restrain Charles W. Holmes, the owner of 42 H Street, from keeping the roof of his house in such a condition that it will drain rain water against the wall of her house. The petition was filed by Attorney L. Gies.

ACTOR ARRESTED.

PLATTSMOUTH, N. Y., Nov. 26.—Itzel Feldman, alias Harrison Fields, stage manager and vocalist in the C. C. and W. Miners Company, was arrested here yesterday and held for the arrival of officers from Newark, where he is wanted for robbery.

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# SCORE LUNGS

Are often the forerunners of pneumonia and consumption. If your lungs feel sore, lose no time but get a bottle of Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup and use it according to directions. You will find quick relief and be permanently cured.

Coughs, colds, bronchitis, asthma, pneumonia, grippe and consumption are quickly

Cured by  
**DR. BULL'S  
COUGH SYRUP**

THE ONE THAT CURES

I have used Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup and know it to be a valuable remedy and the best on the market. I voluntarily state that it saved me from a quick burial by curing me of consumption, into which I was fast drifting as the result of a heavy cold. I must give Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup all the credit that it deserves. F. J. Jacobs, 145 E. 15th Street, New York City.

**AVOID SUBSTITUTES.** Always ask for Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup, the old reliable, which has been on the market for fifty years. If the only one that cures. Price 25c. per bottle. Look for the "Bull's Head" trademark on the wrapper. Refuse cheap substitutes, they are dangerous and do not cure. A. C. MEYER & CO., Baltimore, Md.



# English Testimony

Colds, Headache, Influenza, and Catarrh relieved in 10 minutes by Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder.

Prominent people throughout England, the United States, and Canada, Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder, it will cure you.

Miss Blanche Sloan, London, Eng., the only sister of the world-famous jockey, says: "I have suffered for years from catarrh of the nose, throat, and lungs, and colds. Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder gave me relief in ten minutes. It is worth all other remedies combined."

Claude G. Wood, Palace Theatre, London, Eng., writes: "One bottle of Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder will cure any headache."

Miss Bijon Russell, 10 Kipper St., London, says: "One bottle of Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder cured me of chronic colds or catarrh. It relieves in ten minutes."

Dr. Agnew's Heart Cure relieves Heart Disease in 30 minutes.